

SPs find real-world at Creek Defender

By SSgt. Scott Davis
Public affairs

Members of the 48th Security Police Squadron found real-world conditions during their deployment to a British training area in April as they were challenged in Creek Defender, an annual air base defense training class.

The training took place at Camp Bodney, about 40 minutes from RAF Lakenheath. It was the first time Creek Defender was held outside of Germany.

"The British training areas have a lot more to offer for our security police," said TSgt. Tony Boyce, combat skills instructor

with Creek Defender. The field training exercise was held at the Harrier Air Strip which included a mock-up village. "It allowed us to provide some realistic training scenarios."

The Creek Defender team had always trained security police in air base ground defense at the military training area in Baumholder, Germany. Scenarios are created from after-action reports from contingencies, and the Creek Defender team has deployed people to look at how security police do business in real-world situations.

"The training facilities here are better than what we had in Germany," said SSgt. David Huerd, 48th Security Police Squadron. "The training was realistic. It was something you will really see down range." It was

the second time Huerd had experienced the Creek Defender training.

Creek Defender began with five days in the classroom and three days of practical field exercises at Camp Bodney. The security police then went to the field for six days at Harrier Air Strip where an RAF regiment from RAF Honington stepped in as the opposing force.

"The British were very cooperative," said Boyce. "The word 'no' never came out of their mouths."

Boyce also credited Lakenheath units for their support, including the 48th Medical Group, 48th Civil Engineering Squadron, 48th Transportation Squadron, 48th Supply Squadron and 48th Services Squadron.

Lakenheath launches membership drives

The Air Force plans a servicewide club membership drive, "Traditions Begin With You!" through July 31. The promotion centers around the rich heritage and traditions of the Air Force.

"Traditions Begin With You!" provides significant incentives for new members and also expresses our gratitude to existing members for their valuable membership," said Frank Black, chief of the clubs branch at the Air Force Services Agency in San Antonio.

"The drive has two major phases," explained Black. "There will be a member appreciation promotion from June 1 to July 31, called 'Air Force Clubs and You - a Winning Tradition;' and a 'Member-Get-A-Member' promotion, which will run from May 1 to July 31."

Air Force Clubs and You - A Winning Tradition, thanks current club members for their loyalty by offering them a chance to win the grand prize, a Jeep Grand Cherokee. Other prizes will be awarded including a \$1,997 credit to the winner's club account.

"Each base will conduct special parties and contests, which will give members a chance to enter," said Black.

"For the membership appreciation phase of the program that begins June 1, in addition to the Air Force-wide contest, the Lakenheath clubs offer a free dinner for two in each club for the winning weekly drawing," said George Jones, business operations flight chief.

Membership promotion

The Member-Get-A-Member promotion is geared toward new club membership.

"Every time a club member recruits a new member, they will both be entered into a drawing," said Black. "Prizes will include a Jeep Grand Cherokee, trips to Hawaii, a \$5,000 shopping spree, golf club packages, patio sets, and many other exciting rewards."

"For the membership drive, which began April 28, the clubs offer \$10 in 'club bucks' to each member who gets a new member to apply," Jones said. "The 'club bucks' can be used for food and beverage purchases."

"This membership drive is to return the exclusivity of club membership," Jones said. "It will eliminate members subsidizing nonmembers use of the clubs."

Winners

Winners will be selected June 15, July 15 and during the final drawing Aug. 15.

"This is an unprecedented time for Air Force clubs," said Black. "Club membership has always been the cornerstone of our club operations. Clubs are traditionally as strong as their membership in terms of numbers and involvement. Membership is very important to us if we are to provide a continued and valued service in the future. The bottom line is we need membership and, in return, we need to provide members with value, quality service and product at a competitive price."

"The 48th Services Squadron added value to club memberships in December when they distributed the 1997 club calendars, with coupons worth more than \$1,400," Jones said. "These calendars are handed out to each new member and are still available for those club members who haven't picked theirs up yet."

For information about these and other services programs, call Ext. 3869 or 2535. (Story compiled from local and Air Force sources.)

Honor mothers Sunday

Ancient Greece seems to be the earliest source of Mother's Day celebrations where in the spring they honored Rhea, the Mother of the Gods.

A more "modern" version was a day called "Mothering Sunday," stemming back to England, around 1600.

This day was celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent to honor all the mothers of England. During this time, servants who lived in at the house of their employers would be given the day off to return home and spend the day with their mothers.

As Christianity spread throughout Europe the celebrations altered to honor "Mother Church,"

but as time wore on the two festivals blended, with people honoring their mothers as well as the church.

Mother's Day was celebrated in England March 9. It is celebrated in the United States Sunday.

At RAF Lakenheath, people can honor their mothers and spouses by having balloons delivered, taking them to brunch, or through a variety of other ways. For more information, call Ext. 2221, 3869 or 2535.

